



Calendar of Events

Sunday, November 19

9:30 am Worship w/Communion

9:30 am Sunday School

Monday, November 20

6:00 pm Sit Happens

6:30 pm Executive Committee

Tuesday, November 21

6:15 pm Life Long Faith Formation

Wednesday, November 22

Thursday, November 23

Happy Thanksgiving

OFFICE CLOSED

7:30 pm NA

Friday, November 24

OFFICE CLOSED

Saturday, November 25

12:00 pm Haefner Baby Shower



MESSIAH MESSENGER USPS 342-060

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MESSIAH MESSENGER

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Sunday after worship we had a well attended coffee hour to honor our veterans. Candy Watkins played patriotic songs on the piano. Doris Butt asked four members of the congregation to speak about their experiences in the service. What great stories we heard. Pastor Amme told us stories about his time as a chaplain in the Army. Howard Wilt told us about starting out in the Marine Corps and after 6 years he became Staff Sergeant. He also was just designated as Marine of the Year. Paul Weaver talked to us about his 4 years in the Air Force and talked of stories he learned from his uncle about Pearl Harbor. Bill Reasner spoke of his time in the Navy as a Submarine specialist. After these wonderful stories the floor was open to anyone else that would like to share their experiences. Susan Nadeau (Army), a friend of Barb Houseknecht's, Al Cole (Navy) also spoke of experiences they had. Thank you to all of you for sharing your stories with us and a Big **THANK YOU** for your service.



November 19, 2023

Service Assistants

Ushers: Mike Larson, Pam Eveleth, AnnMarie Hohman, Jean Nolan, Diana Rooker, Susan Christ; **Lay Assistant:** Janet Stroble; **Communion Assistant:** Debbie Day
Acolyte: Ray Demarest; **Altar Guild:** Rita Strickler, Betty Fenstermacher
Greeters/Communion Presenters: Marlin & Brenda Cromley
Cantor: Virginia Amme; **Flower Delivery:** Arch Watkins

Sunday, November 12; Attendance: **94;** Offering: **\$4,320.00** Cap. Campaign: **\$10.00.**

Correction for offering from Sunday, November 5; Offering: \$8,831.00

Cap. Campaign: **\$60.00**

The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of our loved ones by the Carol Armstrong Family.

The Basket of Flowers is given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of George R. Weiskerger on the anniversary of his birthday, November 30th, by his family.

The Basket of Flowers is given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Richard and Dorothy Yeager, by his daughter and son-in-law, Janet and Stosh Wisniewski and grandchildren, Kyle and Jenna.

Bible Readings

Sunday, November 19 – Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18; 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11; Matthew 25:14-30

Monday, November 20 – Psalm 9:1-14; Zechariah 1:7-17; Romans 2:1-11

Tuesday, November 21 - Psalm 9:1-14; Zechariah 2:5; 5:1-4; 1 Thessalonians 5:12-18

Wednesday, November 22 - Psalm 9:1-14; Job 16:1-21; Matthew 24:45-51

Thursday, November 23 – Psalm 95:1-7a; 1 Kings 22:13-23; Revelation 14:1-11

Friday, November 24 – Psalm 95:1-7a; 1 Chronicles 17:1-15; Revelation 22:1-9

Saturday, November 25 - Psalm 95:1-7a; Isaiah 44:21-28; Matthew 12:46-50



Pastoral Care Number: Please call (570) 326-9171. (Available 24 hours a day) During work hours the office staff will assist you. After hours, please press "3" for a Pastoral Emergency to be connected directly to the Pastor.

There will be no bible study on Wednesday, November 22.

The Eucharistic Ministers will be sent out this Sunday, November 19, 2023.

The Office will be closed Thursday, November 23 and Friday, November 24th for the Thanksgiving holiday.

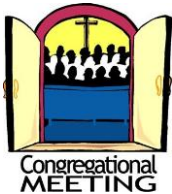


The Library Corner – Highlighted Books



Children – **The Story of Thanksgiving** – This board book gives the story of the Pilgrims as they travel to a new world and how the natives helped them survive, culminating with the First Thanksgiving. This book is in the Other Holiday book section.

Adult - **Blue Ridge Brides** - Love is a challenging adventure in North Carolina. Three women stumble into love amid the islands, towns and hollers of the Tar Heel State. Beth embarks upon an expedition in 1650 to discover the original settlers of the lost colony of Roanoke. Ida is torn about accepting the proposal of steadfast suitor Cyrus. Drusie happily plans her future with her fiancé, until she is offered the chance to step into the limelight-set in 1930's. Book is in the Adult Fiction section of our library.



Official Notice is hereby given of the Annual Congregational Meeting on December 3, 2023. The meeting will be held immediately following the 9:30am Worship Service. Business will include the approval of a budget for 2024, the election of new council members and the selection of a Nominating Committee for next year's council.

Please pick-up your annual reports in the east alcove of the church. Please be sure to take the packet with your name on it. Those that are unable to pick up their packet will be mailed. **Also don't forget to get your offering envelopes if you have not yet gotten them.**

Estimate of Giving Cards and Time and Talent Surveys are now being received. Place them in the offering plate on Sunday morning or by returning them to the office by December 3rd.



Food Pantry is in need of mac and cheese, boxed potatoes, canned fruit, dry milk, spaghetti sauce, spaghetti, jelly, canned chicken, tuna fish, syrup, pancake mix and soup and cream of mushroom soup.



It's time to start practicing the music for the Christmas Eve services. If you are not in the choir but would like to sing please join us on Sunday, December 3rd, (immediately following the Annual Meeting) and Sundays, December 10, December 17 and December 24th immediately following worship.



Soloists, instrumentalists or groups of people interested in playing an instrument or singing on Christmas Eve please contact Jared Gist at 570-398-1674. Thank you!



POINSETTIA
ORDERS

NOW IS THE TIME...to put in your reservation for memorial Poinsettias. Multiple bloom plants are being purchased, the cost per plant being \$8.50. Of course, many of these flowers are taken to homebound members of our congregation.

PLEASE RETURN THE FORM BY MONDAY, NOVEMBER 27th. Please call the church office with any questions. *Thank you.*



ADVENT KIDS IN MISSION - December 2nd from 9 am -

noon. In addition to the service project, games, and story we will be making Christmas cookies. **ALL children** ages 4 through grade 6 are invited. Come join us for a morning of fellowship and fun. Pre-registration is helpful but not required. Registration forms will be at the alley entrance bulletin board and/or on the church's website. Hope to see you there! If you have any questions, please contact Kathryn Pratt at 570-244-6964 or the church office.

"Christmas Music by Candlelight" The Williamsport Music Club will present its 85th Annual "Christmas Music by Candlelight" program on Sunday, December 3rd at 4:00 pm at Pine Street United Methodist Church, 441 Pine Street. Mariyn Burget and Kay Huffman will serve as co - chairpersons for this musical gift for the community. An offering will be taken to benefit The American Rescue Workers of Williamsport.



The Christmas Basket Ministry is accepting monetary donations to purchase needed items for Christmas dinners. Checks made out to Messiah Lutheran Church with Christmas Basket in the memo may be placed in the offering plate or sent to the office. You may also use your Thrivent account to give a gift. If you know of anyone who could use a Christmas basket, please call the office with their names. Please have both names and donations to the office by Sunday, December 10th. *Thank you.*



White Gifts? What is That?

10 things everyone needs to know....



1. *When can I take an angel off the tree?*

Any time from now until December 3.

2. *When taking an angel, what should I do?*

Sign your name, phone # and the child's ID number on the sign-up sheet.

3. *Why is there a letter and number on the wing?*

The letter identifies the family; the number identifies the child in that family. This is why it is very important to tape the angel on your package.

4. *Do I have to buy the color that is their favorite?*

No, this is offered as a suggestion.

5. *Why do we only use white paper to wrap our gifts?*

The white paper is a reminder of the birth and white cloths that wrapped our Baby Jesus, God's son. Decorations and ribbon are not necessary. The gifts are placed in a large white bag for ease in moving. *"Oh, don't forget to put the angel on securely."*

6. *What is next?*

Please bring the wrapped gift, with the angel attached, to the church. In the Chapel, the pews will have letters on them. Place your gift in the pew with the matching letter.

7. *Other ways to help?*

Often times we need to buy gifts the last week for angels that are not taken. We can really use some shoppers and wrappers. Also December 16th we will need help getting the gifts out to the cars of the families.

8. *You can't get out to shop? That's ok.*

Not everyone is able to get out and shop; another way to help is with a monetary donation. Just make a check out to Messiah Lutheran Church and in the memo, write "white gifts".

9. *How many gifts does each child get?*

On the form that the parents fill out the child can receive 6 items. Please be considerate of the other children in your family when buying your gifts. Some of you are very generous when buying and some buy just what is on the list.

10. *Important Dates!!*

- ❖ December 3rd - last day to take an angel.
- ❖ December 10th – all gifts must be returned.
- ❖ December 16th – parents pick up their gifts and baskets

Sometime **BEFORE** December 16th, take a moment and look in the Chapel and see the pews filled with gifts and pause to offer a prayer of thanksgiving for the generous hearts responding to the call to reach out and serve. We are so blessed. Thank you.

More questions? Call Candy Watkins, 570-998-4037 or
Kathy Wither 570-651-2802